

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) Method in a process for preparing extruded articles by flowing heat plastified stream of extrudable resinous thermoplastic material through an extrusion orifice. The method of claim 1, characterized in that the method further comprises comprising the following steps carried out before the extrusion step:

physically ~~physically~~ separating the stream into a central core stream and at least one boundary stream on the outside of the core stream;

while ~~while~~ maintaining physical separation of the core and boundary streams, selectively introducing modifying additives to the boundary ~~streams; stream;~~ and thereafter

recombining ~~recombining~~ the streams prior expelling the material out of the extrusion orifice, said boundary streams being applied as a relatively thin surface layer having altered viscosity properties between the core layer and the surfaces of the extrusion orifice.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the streams are recombined generally near the extrusion orifice.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently Amended) An extrusion process for preparing extruded articles in which process heat plastified stream of extrudable resinous thermoplastic material is arranged to flow through a extrusion orifice, the process comprising the following ~~steps; steps:~~

providing ~~providing~~ a source of heat plastified extrudable synthetic resinous thermoplastic material;

~~advancing~~—~~advancing~~ the material along a first flow path toward the extrusion orifice,

~~wherein the method further comprises the following steps characterized by the step~~ carried out before the extrusion ~~step~~ ~~step~~:

—~~introducing and mixing modifying additives to the surface portion of the material flow.~~

~~diverting a portion of material from the first flow path to a second flow path and introducing and mixing modifying additives comprising a mixture having a viscosity modifying component to the diverted flow; and~~

~~applying the modified material as a relatively thin layer to the surface of the resin flowing in the first flow path prior to passing the material through the extrusion orifice.~~

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The process of ~~claim 6, characterized in that claim 5, wherein~~ the step in which the flow paths are diverted and the step in which the modified material is applied to the first flow path are arranged to be performed before the extrusion orifice.

8-13. (Canceled)